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The chief purpose is not to state doctrines of law but to guide the reader to the books where the doctrines are stated and discussed. From this point of view there is a description of many sources, including statutes, court reports, encyclopedias, the ancient and modern codes, the constitutions and treatises. The several sorts of subjects with which law deals are conveniently subdivided, and thus the reader can rapidly find what he wishes as to the literature and history of any specific topic, such as eminent domain, succession, commercial associations, public service companies, insurance, bills and notes, criminal law, military criminal law, mines, labor legislation, conflict of laws, colonial law, canon law, and many other subjects.

Moreover, although the purpose is chiefly bibliographical, there is much matter here and there on legal history and on present doctrines. See, for example, the brief sketches of legal history (pp. 9, 12-13, 26-42, 63-64, 92, 97, 100, 106, 109, 120), of the use of decisions as precedents (p. 12), of the development of a philosophy of law (pp. 19-26), of criminal procedure (pp. 101-102), of workmen's insurance and employers' liability and other labor laws (pp. 123-130), and of colonial law (pp. 136-139). The passages cited, and the short allusions to the codes which were extended to Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines (pp. 47-48, 50, 65, 138-139), are of interest to any American lawyer.

Yet, as has been indicated, the author's main purpose is to enable the reader to learn more than is contained within the covers of this book, and hence the greater part of his care has been expended in describing the treatises, periodicals, and other sources to which the reader should go for full information. To facilitate the use of the sources, the author gives a liberal glossary of Spanish law terms (pp. 143-163).

In short, here is an intelligent plan, well executed, dealing with interesting subjects and facilitating a movement of importance to the American lawyer and to the whole world.

EUGENE WAMBAUGH.

THE LAW OF SALES OF STOCKS AND BONDS. By Milford J. Thompson. Chicago: Barnard and Miller. 1915. pp. xxv, 208.

The thesis of this book is thus expressed in the opening paragraphs of the introduction:

"There is a universal violation of the law of sales in the present methods of delivering shares of stock, as they are always delivered to deliver the rights they represent in the issuing corporation's profits, business, and property.

"There is also a universal violation of the law of sale contracts in the present method of selling both shares of stock and bonds, in their legal representative sense, in or against certain property, when both the securities and the corporation profits, business and property are described."

The author's language is often difficult to understand, but the basis of his contention seems to be that a sale of stocks or bonds "in their legal representative sense" is substantially an agreement to sell certain intangible rights against corporate property. Further, that something in the nature of delivery is necessary to a sale, and that this requirement is not met unless the buyer is afforded an opportunity to inspect what is bought; and that, therefore, there is no adequate delivery of stocks or bonds unless the buyer is afforded an opportunity to examine the corporate property which is the ultimate security for them. As the author deems it unnecessary to cite authorities, and as he admits the violation of law is universal, and that the sales or contracts ordinarily made are enforced by law, it is evident that he labors under a mis-

conception of what the law is. He assumes not only that an intangible *chose in action* cannot be sold without delivery and inspection, but also that what gives the *chose in action* value (the property of the debtor) must also be open to inspection. He further assumes that if delivery is necessary, it may not be made by means of a symbol such as a stock certificate. These assumptions of the author vitiate his reasoning throughout the book.

SAMUEL WILLISTON.

PROBLEMS IN THE LAW OF CONTRACTS. By Henry Winthrop Ballantine.
Rochester, N. Y.: The Lawyers Co-operative Publishing Company.
1915. pp. 1, 363.

The merits of the system of studying and teaching law from decided cases are mainly due to two circumstances: 1. The cases are the primary sources of the law; and the advantage of seeking law from its primary sources is analogous to the advantage of seeking history from its primary sources. It is the only way to be sure of accurate results. 2. The cases present concrete states of fact which illustrate the application of a rule of law. The interest and attention of the student is attracted by the story of the case, especially if the facts present an interesting situation, or one of common occurrence. He also acquires skill in the ordinary business of a lawyer, by endeavoring to apply rules which he has learned, or is learning, to a particular situation.

Professor Langdell's primary idea in introducing the Case system was probably to gain the first of these advantages; but it may be questioned whether the second has not had quite as much to do with the success of the system.

The suggestion has sometimes been made of making a Case book which should consist wholly of brief statements of facts and that the teacher, giving orally such aid as might be necessary to the students, should set these problems before them without any suggested answer, such as is found in judicial opinions. So far as we know this has not been attempted, and Professor Ballantine does not suggest that his book be used exclusively by students of his subject, but rather in connection either with selected cases or a treatise.

Every good teacher constantly uses problems in his classroom work. This book will suggest some new ones even to an experienced teacher, and an inexperienced one should be greatly helped. Most of the problems are followed by citations of authorities which suggest proper answers or arguments.

In his preface the author states a variety of ways in which his book may be used by teacher or students, and we believe that, rightly used, it will afford help to both.

SAMUEL WILLISTON.

THE LAW OF UNINCORPORATED ASSOCIATIONS. By Sydney R. Wrightington.
Boston: Little, Brown, and Company. 1916. pp. xxvi, 486.

This is a valuable book. In Massachusetts many business undertakings have been organized by vesting property and powers of management in trustees who issue transferable certificates of beneficial interest. Outside of Massachusetts this form of organization is but little used. But recently interest in such form of organization seems to have greatly increased; corporation laws are often thought to be unduly burdensome, — particularly those which fix the terms on which foreign corporations may do business within the jurisdiction; and the inquiry as to how far, without incorporation, facilities and protection may be obtained, approximating in substance corporate facilities and protection, has become of increased practical importance. Any contribu-